

From the Wilmington Journal.  
Fayetteville and Charleston. Our Charlotte Road—We blame individual persons for trying to help themselves the best way they can, and we therefore stand to the efforts of Fayetteville to make a connection with Charleston. Fayetteville wants to connect with Charleston, and we are not to be blamed for it. We only regret that, in the movements of our country, we are not more united. We are not to be blamed for it. We only regret that, in the movements of our country, we are not more united. We are not to be blamed for it. We only regret that, in the movements of our country, we are not more united.

The above is a rich specimen of modesty and disinterestedness. It says in effect, Fayetteville don't know what will benefit herself or her neighbors, and don't move in such a direction as to "coniliate her neighbors." She evidently needs a guardian; and we may expect to hear of the Journal applying for that trust in behalf of Wilmington.

But "Who is the guardian?" We only regret that, in the movements of our country, we are not more united. We are not to be blamed for it. We only regret that, in the movements of our country, we are not more united. We are not to be blamed for it. We only regret that, in the movements of our country, we are not more united.

We copy the above from the Fayetteville Observer of the 2nd. The good humored courtesy—the kindly spirit of the Observer's remarks will immediately attract the attention of the most careless reader. It is the Observer and not the Journal that hints anything about Fayetteville needing a guardian, and indeed that paper seems to fire up at the bare idea of a competitor for the post, to which it has evidently long since elected itself. It must certainly regard its fellow-citizens as very weak in the head if it expects them to swallow so much unprovoked bitterness, so totally unjustified by reason or the circumstances of the case. If we placed so low an estimate upon the intelligence of the people of Fayetteville, as the Observer in this case seems to do, we might think of the necessity of a guardian. But we have no such notions; nor at any rate, had we the appointment of such an officer, would we confer that appointment upon those whose thoughts vibrate so rapidly between the moon and the earth, that it is impossible to tell to which sphere they belong.

The Observer is not informed of the kind of trade the moon would furnish. Neither are we, but might conjecture that it might include "articles" not unlike that which we have quoted from our dissatisfied contemporary.

Mr. Whitaker has laid on our table, the first number of "Russell's Magazine," being that for April, 1857.

It is a very neatly gotten up Magazine, in the style of Blackwood's. It is printed and published at Charleston, S. C., at \$3 a year, or 25 cents for a single number. Mr. Whitaker is the agent for this place, by whom it will be regularly supplied.

The object of the publisher is to furnish, if possible, a vehicle by which the highest literary mind of the South will be brought into contact with the world, and the world with it. Southern literature is fostered and sustained, and the reading people of the Southern States relieved from their dependence upon the abolitionized Magazine literature of the Northern cities. From a hasty glance at the contents of the Magazine, we think it at it ought to succeed. It depends upon the cultivated reading class to say whether it will succeed or not.

We may devote more attention to the Magazine after we have read it—say to-morrow.  
[Daily Journal, 3d inst.

## Russell's Magazine.

We devoted some time last evening to an examination of this new candidate for the position of the representative periodical of the South. Upon the whole, it is pretty much what we expected that it would be. Its articles bearing upon the discussion of constitutional questions, exhibit the superior training of the Southern mind, the result of careful and thorough study of the subject. In close reasoning and accurate analysis, it is superior to its Northern competitors; and its literary criticism, as shown in the "Editor's Table," displays cultivation and taste, with an indecomposable something, indicating the absence of that practical ingenuity which belongs to the professional literature. However, in these matters, pertaining essentially to the Review, we feel that its main strength lies, and that it is really strong—most decidedly able. It is in the department of what has been called "pure literature"—the department of the imagination that there is most room for improvement, and upon this department any periodical must lean for popular support. The tales and sketches in this number hardly strike us as hitting the mark—we will not say that they are not up to it—perhaps they are above it. But the mark—the desideratum in this department is interest, entertainment, and not metaphysics. Men, and women too, read tales or sketches to be amused—to afford their minds a pleasing and unlabored excitement—to relax the strain—not to tighten it. Thousands would not read Simon Suggs in a magazine who would not get beyond the first paragraph of Mr. Calhoun's most powerful and far-reaching disquisitions and predictions upon Government.

To exert its proper influence, any production must be read—any magazine must circulate. To be read generally it must be generally readable. It must amuse and entertain as well as instruct. Instruction must, apparently at least, be the incident, not the main object. Therefore, while, of course, the absence of everything objectionable in morals or taste is the sine qua non, the presence of other qualities is essential to success. Southern literature, as literature, needs encouragement rather than Southern politics. The South stands pre-eminent in political knowledge, and contains more and better trained and better informed political writers than the North. It is necessary to afford a popular medium through which the highest efforts of the political mind of the South may reach the public of both sections. The Magazine presents that medium, but to present it properly it must be the popular Magazine.

We make these remarks because we feel that the success and influence of any Southern Magazine must primarily depend upon its literary attractions—its popular readability, and that a misconception upon this point must be fatal to success, and, without success, there is no room for usefulness. We feel that the purely literary articles in this number of "Russell's" evince the possession, on the part of the writers, of high capabilities, but the articles themselves are deficient in popular tone and interest—too much on the "high art" order. Harper don't suit the South in people altogether. Then why do they buy it? Simply because it has a fund of reading matter suited to the popular taste, and, under cover of this, it inculcates its objectionable views. To prevent this—to give correct views a fair chance—they must come out on an equal footing. It is said of somebody—John Wesley, we believe—that when called to account for adopting certain beautiful songs music

to church purposes, he replied that he saw no reason why the devil should have all the good tunes. We see no reason why the monopoly of amusing the people should be left to the abolitionists; but, certainly, as long as Harper is the most amusing, it will be the most generally purchased Magazine, even at the South.—Daily Journal, 4th inst.

The Distribution and Deposit Questions.  
If we know anything of our duty to our party, it is a duty which we owe primarily to the principles of that party. These are paramount. Men are but their exponents, and must base their claims for support upon their fidelity to these principles. This proposition, we think, carries its confirmation on the face of it.

Our object now is not to enter into a discussion of the questions which appear as a caption at the head of this article. So far as the Distribution matter is concerned, we have argued that time and again, and, incidentally, the other form of it which comes under the guise of deposits with the States, of monies which had already been wrong from their people by the collection of duties beyond the necessities of the Federal Government, duties which not simply took directly an undue amount of the people's earnings to pay them, but which forced the consumer to pay a proportionately increased price for articles from which no revenue accrued to the Federal Treasury. The proper use of money coming into the treasury is the payment of the debts of the government, and the carrying on of its operations within its legitimate sphere. The best and only proper depositing place for the people's money is in the people's own pockets. Don't take it out of that place by unnecessary taxes, to return it in the form of gratuities to the States, disguised under the plausible guise of "deposits."

The name may have lead some astray. The fact is, that distributions and deposits have amounted to about the same thing. Practically there has been little difference. We would willingly have avoided any remark upon this subject if we could have done so consistently with our position, or if silence were not liable to be construed into endorsement of or acquiescence in Mr. Campbell's deposit bill. This bill did not pass the Senate. That body was not caught. A bill did pass both houses, the object of which is to bring the collections within the limits required by the actual necessities of the public service. It may not be and we think is not perfect, but it was a move in the right direction—in the only direction in which relief could fairly and properly be given. Governor Wise, in his letter to Mr. Banks of the Petersburg Democrat, republished in the Journal of this week, takes what we conceive to be the proper view of the matter.

This deposit affair is not now a practical question. The occasion to give a plausible pretext for it may not soon again come round, if ever. It will be by the sheerest demagoguism that the opposition can drag it into the coming congressional canvass in this State; and therefore, while we regret the necessity which compels us thus distinctly to dissent from the abortive action of our Congressmen in this matter, we make this avowal of dissent simply on our own account, and for the preservation of our own consistency, not by way of attack against gentlemen with whom on all other matters we agree. Unless the position of the Democratic press of the State be thus defined, it may find itself committed to measures which it cannot justify to itself, nor reconcile with its principles. We, at least, humble as our position may be, have no earthly idea of being so committed by our own laches. We submit our views with all respect, but also with all firmness.

## New Schooner.

By invitation of Joseph H. Flanner, Esq., consignee and part owner, a very pleasant party of gentlemen assembled on Saturday afternoon on board the new and handsome schooner Kate Field, just arrived from New York on her first trip to this port, between which and New York she is destined to ply as a regular trader. Her dimensions are as follows:—Length of keel 110 feet; length on deck 118 feet; over all 130 feet; breadth of beam 29 feet; capacity about 2,700 bbls rosin; registered burthen 291 tons. She is under the command of Captain Robbins.

The Kate Field appears to be in every respect a number one vessel of her class, and admirably adapted to the trade for which she is designed. We wish her and all concerned the fullest success—full freights and fair winds, and a good time generally. Let it be an edict.

KILLED.—We learn that yesterday, two negroes got into a dispute at or in the neighborhood of one of the Steam Mills above the railroad. The dispute eventuated in a fight, terminating in the death of one of the parties, who, it would seem, was killed by a blow from a slung shot in the hands of the other. The deceased was named "Austen," and belonged to Mrs. Gibbs. The other who is now in jail, we believe, named "John," and belongs to the estate of Samuel Berry, Esq., deceased. We have heard several rumors, but no additional particulars to be relied on.

The Washington Union of Saturday evening, contains an article from Hon. John Appleton, announcing his retirement from the editorial conduct of that paper. Mr. Appleton has accepted the appointment of assistant Secretary of State.

The new editor and proprietor, whoever that is to be, will speak for himself in a few days. Conjectures points to Col. Forney, although there is no assurance.

KANSAS.—OL. OBER ON ROBERT J. WALKER.—According to the Spartanburg, S. C., Express, Col. Ober made a speech in that place on the evening of Tuesday last week, in which he briefly alluded to Kansas. He was not gifted in prophecy, and could not tell what would be his fate, but said that the Hon. Robert J. Walker, (formerly of Mississippi) who has received and accepted the appointment to the governorship of Kansas, is a man in every way to be relied on, and will see our rights and interests protected.

The following new Post Offices have been established in N. C.—Kelvin Grove, Wake county; James R. Page, postmaster.

Kingsbury, Cumberland county; Chas. D. Nixon, postmaster.

We are requested to state that A. W. Miller, Esq., has been elected by the Dialectic Society to deliver the next annual address before the two Literary Societies of Chapel Hill.

## OFFICIAL.

Appointments by the President.  
CUSTOM-HOUSE OFFICERS.

Jacob Fry, collector, Chicago, Illinois, vice Philip Coulter, resigned.

Edmund Wright, collector, Edenton, North Carolina, re-appointed.

Robert Parks, collector, Cuyahoga, Ohio, re-appointed.

Jo. N. Baldwin, collector, Key West, Florida, re-appointed.

Augustus Jenkins, collector, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, vice Zenas Clement, whose commission expires April 4, 1857.

Joshua G. Hadley, surveyor, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, vice Kittredge Sheldon, whose commission has expired.

George R. Bertell, appraiser, Philadelphia, vice Gideon G. Westcott, appointed postmaster.

WOOD-GROWING IN THE SOUTH.—A gentleman who has been engaged in the wood-growing business in Tennessee, and who has recently transferred to North Carolina, informs the Mobile Tribune that the raising of sheep in that State would be more profitable than the culture of cotton. Thousands of acres, fit for nothing else but sheep pastures, could be had for 12 1/2 cents per acre.

## Distribution.—Letter from Gov. Wise.

The proposition for a distribution of the proceeds of the public lands among the States, has, at intervals, engaged the attention of the greatest intellects of our country, and has been the subject of much able and original discussion. It is a question of the highest importance, and one which, if not settled, will be the arena of politics, as an effect and obnoxious issue, it is again exhumed, and paraded before the people, as the sheet-anchor of their safety from bankruptcy and ruin. Volumes have been spoken and written in regard to it. But we have yet to see its merits and demerits, more fully and fairly expounded and exposed, compressed with such sententiousness into so small a compass, or more argumentatively analyzed than in the following letter from Governor Wise.

With that comely rehemiveness, vehemence and restless logic, linking thought with thought, and welding fact into fact in an unbroken chain of eloquence and argumentation, so characteristic of his genius, and that there is neither reason nor right in the proposition for distribution. But to the letter:

Hon. H. A. Wise.—Sir.—Observing that your views on the matter of Land Distribution have been of late made the subject of comment and criticism, and knowing that your opinion is highly valued, I could be glad if you would inform me whether they have undergone any material change; and also to furnish me, for publication, any reflections that may have occurred to you on the subject.

Very truly yours, A. D. BANKS.

Petersburg, March 30th, 1857.

RICHMOND, VA., March 30th, 1857.

A. D. Banks, Esq.  
Sir—I send you the following as the substance of what I have lately written to a friend in a private letter. You are welcome to publish it, or not, as you please, as a brief, or more note of the opinions on the subject referred to, of yours truly.

HENRY A. WISE.

RICHMOND, March 27, 1857.

DEAR SIR: \* \* \* I presume that no one is chimerical enough to think of proposing a re-division of the public lands themselves. Such a proposition at this time would be virtually to commence to dissolve the Union. It would be impracticable, if lawful, and the latter is as questionable as the former, unless there be a dissolution of the Union. I am opposed to this because, as a proposition to dispose of the proceeds of land and customs in the treasury; undistinguishable masses of money there, as a surplus, from time to time may arise. But two modes of disposing of surplus in the treasury, other than is pointed out in the Constitution, have been proposed, and each has been tried. The first mode is the Distribution of the States. The objections to both are insuperable.

Money in the treasury is not distinguishable by—1st. The source from whence it comes. Whether it comes from land or customs, its use is defined by the Constitution, and it is a common fund for national appropriation.

The land fund has two sources: 1st. Customs—debts by States to the U. S. 2d. Acquisitions, by 1st. Purchase, or 2d. Conquest.

The deeds express that the object of their cession is, "for the general charge and expenditure"—a phrase equivalent to the provision of the Constitution respecting customs, "to provide for the common defense and general welfare."

And the acquisitions were generally and originally made by expenditures out of the Treasury from money collected from customs—certainly from a common fund of money in the use for common, general and federal ends.

2d. Nor is money in the Treasury distinguishable by 2d. The ends of the powers of Government. The land power is to "make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory (land) or other property of the United States." The original end of this power is the great object of settlement of territory. The end of the revenue power is the regulation of commerce. Money to pay debts even is secondary to that great end of the customs.

Accordingly, the lands have been so administered as to be sold at a price to cheapen homesteads so low as to yield no revenue; or, when revenue has accrued, it has been applied to the same end, to a surplus from customs couldn't be distributed or given absolutely away. Then the supposed surplus was 36 millions; 28 millions were distributed, and before 1840 there was a deficiency under Mr. Van Buren of 40 millions. The surplus soon fell below 5 millions, and the 4th instalment was arrested.

Again:—5th. In 1841, the parties distributed a deficiency, i. e. passed a distribution bill, when there was no surplus in the Treasury, showing that neither surplus nor its want will restrain the abuse of power from making a deficiency itself larger to increased protective tariff, and to defeat both the ends of the revenue power, free trade; and of the land power, the settlement of the West. The act was made perpetual until, or unless the Tariff Compromise of 1832-33 was disturbed. This condition, unfortunately, carried with it the Tariff. What followed? The Tariff Compromise was immediately broken, and the deposit of the fourth instalment was arrested. Another preposterous provision is, that in case of war, deficiency, or any emergency happening, the deposit with the States should be returned to the Treasury. War with Mexico, which made the country bleed at purse and every pore, came, and though debt and deficiency run up to 120 millions, yet not a breath about return of deposits to the Treasury was ever heard of. The unrepaid law is dead and unexecuted on the statute book, and there the provision still stares us out of countenance, to show its immorality, that it was in its very inception "in fraudulent Constitutions."

6th. Again: If Congress may so "regulate" lands as to give them away, so they may "other property," for the two stand together in the same category.

7th. The system stimulates and encourages an engender corruption in the States, as well as at Washington. Virginia got \$2,198,000 from her three instalments in 1836. What became of it? Did it diminish taxation? Futile and foolish was the hope! \$249,000 went to State expenditures, and \$1,958,000 went to Bank loans, at a time when the amount was appreciable in comparison with State debt and liabilities; and it inflated appropriations so that we ran up our State debt from about 10 or 12 to 25 millions! Taxes increased largely from that very date, and have been steadily rising ever since.

8th. The moral argument against looking to the Federal Government for its surplus—and it needs every dollar it now has and more, for just and general national objects—the moral argument against calling upon Hercules to put his shoulder to the wheel, is stronger than the material reasons put together.

Teach the people to depend on their own resources, making their great works, of lightening their tax burthens and of paying the public debt, and every nerve of self-reliance and of manly self-assertion will be once relaxed! You will emancipate your people!

This is but an epitome of what I have not time to elaborate. You have but to go back to the journals of Congress to see my speeches and votes, and the opinions there have not changed, but been fortified by time. Hastily and respectfully,

Your obedient servant, HENRY A. WISE.

A clergyman was rebuked by a brother of the cloth a few days ago for smoking. The clergyman said that he used the weed in moderation. "What do you call moderation?" inquired the other. "Why, sir," said the offender, "one cigar at a time."

The first case.—Although the result of the first case of Lieut. Pennington before the National Court of Inquiry has not been officially trumpeted, it is asserted that he is left dropped, as by the decision of the Reform Board.

## Three Days Later from Europe.

New York, April 2.—The Bremen steamer Constitution, from Antwerp on the 12th, and Southampton on the 17th, arrived here to-day. The news is entirely unexpected.

The French ships were anchored at the head of the Bay of Hong Kong. The American sloop-of-war Levant was also in the harbor. The steamer San Jacinto had proceeded to Lintin to look after some junk that had attempted to intercept the American steamer Lily.

Commissioner Leh had addressed the American commissioner, asking why he had not ordered the American ships and subjects not to interfere with the present troubles. Mr. Parker's reply was not known.

Tea continued to advance at Shanghai, and the market was excited. Several chops of Congou had been taken at fourteen taels, the same as sold for eight taels in October.

A Paris letter says that a French charge left Marseilles on the 12th for China, with instructions for the admirals of the French fleets in the China seas to operate with the English forces conformably to the arrangements concluded between the two governments.

USA is making preparations for a decisive campaign in the Caucasus. She had one hundred thousand troops along the shores of the Caspian, and, besides, has secured the active co-operation of several native chiefs.

The steamship Indiana, from Portland, arrived at Liverpool on the 16th. The political news is unimportant. The Paris correspondent of the London Times says that the King of Prussia has sent new instructions to the conference, to the effect that the recognition of his rights to the sovereignty of Neuchâtel is the express condition of his renunciation of that sovereignty.

The Spanish expedition against Mexico assumes a more imposing aspect. General Pexuela is spoken of for the chief command.

A despatch from Copenhagen says that the Sound dues treaty was duly signed on the 14th of March. The Danish and Swedish mail had arrived at London. Its arrival confirms the telegraphic accounts of the whole sale attempts at poisoning by the bakers of Hong Kong. Several hundred persons had been poisoned, but none fatally.

The proprietor of the bakery was arrested on his way to Macao, and was to be tried immediately at Hong Kong.

A large number of junks was collecting for the purpose of attacking Hong Kong, and some were were entertained by the English on account of the smallness of their land forces. An application was made to the governor general of India for a regiment of troops, which was refused.

Four Days Later from Europe.—Arrival of the Asia.—New York, April 4.—The Cunard steamer Asia, from Liverpool on the afternoon of the 21st ult., arrived here this forenoon.

The English papers are almost entirely filled with electioneering matters. Parliament will probably be dissolved on Monday next.

The third meeting of the Neuchâtel conference will be held immediately, favorable instructions having been received from Prussia. A conference upon the condition of 1,000 francs principalities will be held in Paris, probably in June.

Austria, it is reported, is on the point of breaking off diplomatic relations with Sardinia, and that the Sardinian chambers have voted a large sum for fortifications.

The Mexican envoy has arrived at Madrid. The treaty abolishing the Danish Sound dues was signed on the 14th. The Asia brings the text of the treaty.

The British are having a difficulty with Japan.—Two ships of war have occupied the port of Nagasaki.

The Prussian minister at Constantinople has demanded an explanation respecting a force of three hundred Polish fitted out by English sympathizers who have landed in Circassia.

The steamer Fulton, from New York, touched at Cuxes on the 20th.

The Sardinian Chamber of Deputies voted five millions of francs to put the fortifications of Alessandria in an immediate state of defence.

Full instructions were sent from Cadiz on the 12th of March to the governor general of Havana respecting the difficulty with Mexico.

The Irish liberals have adopted their electioneering programme, of which the following are the leading points: 1. Tenant right, as recently modified.

2. The disendowment of all religious sects, and the abolition of the Irish Church as a State establishment.

3. Religious equality, involving the repeal of the ecclesiastical-titles act.

4. The enlargement of the country franchise.

5. The abolition of the property qualifications.

A modification of the French cabinet is again discussed. It is believed that the object is to incorporate the cabinet with the Department of State and imperial household.

It was rumored that Concha would be recalled from Cuba. Doubtful.

The text of the Sound dues treaty is published.—Denmark engages not to levy any dues whatever on vessels passing the bells or sound; also to maintain lights, buoys, &c., at the approaches of its ports, and along the coasts, &c.

CHINA.—Private letters received in Paris state that the Emperor and his consorts had been convicted of an attempt to poison the British charge at Hong Kong, and shot. It is said that a great portion of Canton, both within and without the walls, has been destroyed.

The Paris correspondent of the London Daily News asserts positively that negotiations are progressing between France and England for the sending of a French army of 20,000 men to China.

LONDON, Saturday noon.—It was announced in Parliament this morning that it is the Queen's intention to immediately dissolve Parliament, in order to ascertain in the most constitutional manner the sense of the people in the present state of public affairs.

A despatch from Paris says that the King of Prussia has finally agreed to settle the Neuchâtel difficulty, by vesting the rights of the condition, that the title of Prince of Neuchâtel be reserved to the Prussian Crown, that he be allowed for four years the revenues of his ancient domains in the Canton, and that an amnesty be granted his partisans there.

The Asia passed off Tuskar, on 22d ult., the steamship City of Washington, for Liverpool; same day off the Cunard steamship Niagara, from Boston to Liverpool.

The Asia brings nearly two millions of francs.

New Granada and the United States.

New York, April 1.—The New York Herald has a special dispatch, which says that Commissioner Morse and Mr. Bowline have entirely failed in their mission to the New Granada Government for reparations for the Panama massacre.

The New York Times of to-day has a strong article in relation to Kansas affairs, regretting that the free State settlers have resolved to take no part in the election. It cannot perceive what they can possibly gain by such a step. If they meditate a revolution by forcible resistance to all territorial authority, and that of the People's Constitution, and the men who hold office under it, then their proceedings are at least intelligible; but all such intentions are disapproved.

The only effect, therefore, of refusing to vote will be to throw away the chance, either of influencing the result, or of challenging the fairness of the trial; but if they have declined having anything to do with the election, they lose all right to be heard in the matter at all, and voluntarily place the whole game in the hands of their opponents.

From Washington City.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Mr. Appleton has been appointed Assistant Secretary of State.

It is rumored that Wm. A. Harris, formerly a representative in Congress from Virginia, will be editor of the Union.

Samuel Harris, a member of Congress from Alabama, died this afternoon.

John N. Whitfield has been appointed register, and Daniel Woodson receiver, for the Delaware land district in Kansas; and Charles R. Mig chief of Indian affairs ad interim.

The law for the election in Kansas provides that all free white male citizens of the United States residing in the Territory on the 1st of April, shall be entitled to vote for members of the Constitutional Convention, without any residence whatever, any test of color, Gov. Walker repeats the opinion, that Kansas will be a free State.

## The State of China.

A letter addressed to the Registrar General, London, by Sir John Bowring, has been published in the Journal of the Statistical Society. We make the following extracts from this interesting document, which was written in July, 1855:—

There has been no official census taken since the time of Kia King, 43 years ago. Much doubt has been thrown upon the accuracy of these returns, which gave 362,447,184 as the total number of inhabitants of China. It is not, however, the population of the country increases the evidence in favor of the approximate correctness of the official document, and that we may with tolerable safety estimate the present population of the Chinese empire as between 350,000,000 and 400,000,000 of human beings.

I think there is abundant evidence of redundant population pressing more and more heavily upon, and suffering more and more severely from, an inadequate supply of food. Though there are periods when extraordinary harvests enable the Chinese to transport rice, the principal food of the people, from one province to another, and sometimes even to foreign countries, yet of late the importations from foreign countries have been enormous, and China has drawn largely on the Straits, the Philippines, Siam, and other places, for rice. It is not, however, the famine here, notwithstanding, committed dreadful ravages, and the provisions of the Imperial granaries have been wholly inadequate to provide for the public wants. It is true that cultivation has been greatly interfered with by internal disorders, and that there has been much destruction by inundations, incendiarism, and other accidental or transitory causes; but without reference to these, I am disposed to believe that there is a greater increase in the number of the population than in the home production of food for their use. It must be remembered, too, that while the race is thus augmenting, the causes which lead to the destruction of food—such as the overflow of rivers, fires, ravages of locusts, bad seasons, and other calamities—are to a great extent beyond the control of human prudence or human exertion.

The multitudes of persons who live by the fisheries in China afford evidence not only that the land is cultivated to the greatest possible extent, but that it is insufficient to supply the necessities of the overhanging population; for agriculture is held in high honor in China, and the husbandman stands next in rank to the sage or literary man in the social hierarchy. It has been supposed that nearly a tenth of the population derive their means of support from fisheries. It is not, however, the case that thousands of boats ply of food beyond its present productiveness, considering that hand husbandry has given to cultivation more of a horticultural than an agricultural character.

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